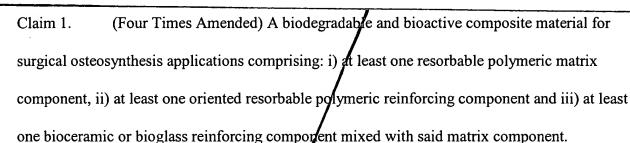
AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111 08/921,533 02880/158

0600. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.111(a), Applicant also respectfully requests entry of the following amendments and reconsideration of the present application.

## **BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**



Claim 16. (Four Times Amended) A biodegradable and bioactive composite material for surgical osteosynthesis applications comprising: i) at least one resorbable polymeric matrix component, ii) at least one oriented resorbable polymeric reinforcing component in fiber form, and iii) at least one bioceramic or bioglass reinforcing component mixed with said matrix component, the diameter of the oriented resorbable polymeric reinforcing component being greater than the diameter or particle size of the bioceramic or bioglass reinforcing component.

## **REMARKS**

Applicants would like to initially express their gratitude to Examiner Channavajjala and Examiner Kishore for the courtesies extended during the personal interview of August 29, 2002. Claims 1-22 are pending in the current application and claims 1 and 16 have been amended by